



# Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending September 2, 2007

## ONLY FEW LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS HAVE ADEQUATE HAY

Not only are the state’s row crop producers having a tough season with the ongoing drought, but farmers are also faced with shortages of adequate forage and water for their livestock. Livestock producers continue to struggle with declining pasture conditions and hay shortages, as stocks were rated as 50 percent very short, 35 percent short, and 15 percent adequate. Tennessee’s weather remained warm last week with only a few scattered showers, allowing almost a full week for field work. Harvest of this year’s corn crop progressed at pace two weeks ahead of last year and the five-year average. The state’s soybean farmers began harvest on a limited basis of some early maturing varieties, while development continues to be about two and a half weeks ahead of normal. Cotton defoliation also got underway with over three-fourth of the acreage opening bolls, a pace three weeks ahead of normal. Other activities included harvesting tobacco and corn silage, and making land preparations for seeding fall forages.

There were 6 days last week considered suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 59 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 10 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 71 percent very short, 25 percent short, and 4 percent adequate. Temperatures were 6 to 7 degrees above normal across the State, while rainfall was below average across the West and Plateau sections and above normal elsewhere.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Mature	98	84	74	69	Cattle	9	15	44	29	3
Corn – Harvested for Grain	45	16	19	15	Cotton	7	25	40	22	6
Corn – Harvested for Silage	81	72	80	75	Pastures	55	31	12	2	0
Cotton – Bolls Opening	78	53	31	27	Soybeans	36	34	23	7	0
Cotton – Defoliated	8	n/a	3	2	Tobacco	15	21	39	24	1
Soybeans – Setting Pods	96	91	100	98						
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	47	33	24	18						
Tobacco – Topped	87	84	91	91						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	45	33	48	47						
Tobacco – Dark Air-Cured Harvested	74	55	55	56						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	54	41	53	51						

n/a = not available

### County Agent Comments

*“The farmers in Fayette County have been defoliating cotton and some will start picking next week. Other activities include bean and corn harvest. Yields look fair to good so far. We did get a few showers this week in certain parts of the county.”*

Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

*“Harvested tobacco is curing too fast in extreme heat and low humidity, resulting in poor body and off colors. Lots of questions regarding reseeding pasture grass this fall. Nitrate testing continues.”*

David K. Glover, Smith County

*“The return of moisture has many producers hoping for some increase in soybean yields. Double crop beans make up approximately 60% of the soybean crop, about 10% were lost to the extreme drought and heat during August, those that survived aborted flowers and pods. Most have put on new growth since 8/24 rains but yield potential will be extremely low to non-existent. The extreme weather conditions of August have caused severe damage to developing beans of early planted beans. Most of the beans close to harvest are immature and green, making most of the early beans unmarketable at the elevators. Cotton producers are hoping moisture will help put a little more weight into the crop; the majority of the acres are opening bottom bolls.*

Ed Burns, Franklin County

*“Water shortages are beginning to spill over to non-farm, rural households depending on wells for water. Forage of any kind is in great demand and only slightly available. Water for farming operations is still the major problem farmers in the county are dealing with at this time. Streams and creeks are so stagnate that they pose a health threat to those cattle that drink from them. The month of August had 30 days greater than or equal to 90 degrees, 26 days 95 degrees or higher and eight days that were 100 degrees or more. Total rainfall for the month was .76 inches.”*

Tom Swanks, Meigs County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION  
For week ending: September 2, 2007 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending September 2, 2007				Current Week 09/02/07	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	100	64	82	7	0.07	1	19.57	-16.04	11.93	-9.91
Tri-City_RGNL_A	93	60	77	6	0.01	1	16.32	-12.44	10.80	-7.59
Brownsville_TN	99	65	82	6	0.00	0	18.06	-17.60	10.27	-11.59
Chattanooga/Lov	98	69	83	7	1.20	4	23.80	-12.77	16.55	-4.29
Clarksville_Sew	100	65	82	8	0.04	1	29.45	-5.08	20.33	-0.55
Cookeville	95	66	79	7	0.11	3	22.63	-16.50	12.73	-11.37
Covington	97	62	80	5	0.00	0	23.12	-11.56	14.34	-6.66
Crossville_AP	90	64	78	7	0.15	3	24.09	-14.45	17.07	-6.45
Dayton	94	66	79	5	1.70	6	24.47	-14.03	17.84	-4.64
Dickson_AG	98	63	80	6	0.08	2	22.14	-14.61	12.55	-10.19
Dover_1W	98	63	81	7	0.31	3	21.84	-13.91	11.46	-10.39
Dyersburg	99	64	81	6	0.00	0	21.63	-12.44	12.55	-8.70
Erwin_1W	91	65	77	8	0.63	2	24.43	-10.61	18.81	-4.72
Huntingdon_Wate	99	64	81	7	1.24	1	17.88	-17.82	9.47	-12.47
Jackson_Exp_Stn	99	66	83	8	0.00	0	17.52	-17.79	8.84	-13.19
Kingston_AG	95	67	80	8	1.09	5	25.54	-14.89	17.34	-7.01
Knoxville_AP	96	70	81	8	2.72	3	24.33	-8.81	17.29	-2.53
Lewisburg	97	67	80	7	0.14	2	24.98	-12.44	17.35	-5.49
Lexington_TN	101	65	82	7	0.39	1	18.79	-15.70	9.20	-12.10
Linden	102	62	80	7	1.34	2	21.96	-16.03	12.80	-10.20
Martin	97	62	80	6	1.88	2	24.32	-11.62	13.35	-9.35
Mc_Minnville_Tn	96	67	80	6	0.12	2	22.23	-14.40	15.21	-7.00
Memphis_AG	101	68	84	6	0.00	0	22.04	-12.92	14.07	-7.40
Milan	100	59	80	7	1.27	2	20.59	-16.13	12.35	-10.75
Murfreesboro_5N	97	67	82	7	0.06	2	25.65	-10.71	14.77	-7.81
Nashville_Metro	99	70	83	8	1.30	2	18.84	-13.89	11.27	-9.22
Newcomb	93	63	78	8	0.56	4	25.16	-12.79	17.15	-6.93
Oneida	93	63	78	8	0.71	6	23.93	-14.02	16.43	-7.65
Portland_TN	97	65	80	7	0.20	2	23.33	-12.21	13.97	-8.27
Pulaski_Water_P	93	68	80	5	0.16	2	21.83	-15.54	12.79	-9.19
Savannah_6SW	101	67	83	8	0.06	1	21.05	-17.53	12.39	-10.73
Sparta_TN	95	66	80	8	1.40	1	22.86	-14.97	14.47	-8.79
Springfield	97	66	81	8	0.60	1	21.47	-12.59	12.58	-8.61
Springhill	99	67	82	9	0.13	3	23.54	-14.12	14.04	-9.01
Union_City	99	62	79	6	1.02	1	22.73	-12.33	12.52	-9.36
Waynesboro_TN	97	66	80	7	0.64	3	24.16	-15.38	15.97	-7.80

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
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